

Message

---

**From:** Frederick Olsen [otiliusconsulting@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** 8/5/2020 9:50:43 PM  
**To:** Hladick, Christopher [hladick.christopher@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Senator@sullivan.senate.gov; ahurley@utbb.org  
**Subject:** SEITC Letter in Support of a Veto of 404 permit for Pebble Mine  
**Attachments:** seitcVetoPebble.pdf

Administrator Hladick;

Formed in 2014, the Southeast Alaska Indigenous Transboundary Commission (SEITC) is a consortium of fifteen federally recognized Southeast Alaska Tribal governments created to protect Tribal lands and waterways for future generations. SEITC supports Bristol Bay Tribes in their efforts to protect their watershed's environmental health that has sustained their indigenous way of life, their livelihoods, and their communities sustainability since time immemorial.

The Environmental Protection Agency has responsibility to protect the Bristol Bay watershed from unacceptable adverse effects that the Pebble Project will have on the water, fisheries, wildlife, and cultures. We have great concern for the inadequate environmental analysis of the Pebble Mine by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Pebble Mine is too risky for Bristol Bay. Pebble's plan to build a mine at the headwaters of Bristol Bay will have irreversible and devastating impacts to the pristine waters that support the world's last, greatest wild salmon runs.

Bristol Bay Tribes first petitioned the EPA to prohibit mines like Pebble in the region more than a decade ago. The science, history, and facts prove how detrimental the Pebble project would be to the Bristol Bay region. A politically motivated permitting process should not determine the future for Bristol Bay's people, salmon, and way of life. In 2017, we signed a Memorandum of Agreement with United Tribes of Bristol Bay. We support Tribal efforts to protect clean water and human safety in the Bristol Bay region.

The Army Corps of Engineers' environmental review is missing critical data and fails to include a complete assessment of the existing aquatic resources at the mine site and along the transportation corridor. The ACE also failed to thoroughly investigate the project's direct and indirect environmental, socioeconomic, and cultural impacts to the region.

The Army Corps of Engineers has blatantly ignored significant criticisms from the EPA, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State of Alaska, and other state, federal, and Tribal cooperating agencies, and has disregarded public input and concerns throughout the process. The ACE even ignored Congress' directive to perform a more thorough analysis of the permit application, and instead chose to push this toxic project forward despite scientific evidence condemning its development.

Protect Bristol Bay and veto Pebble's permit.

Sincerely,

ROB SANDERSON JR

Rob Sanderson, Jr.

Chair, SEITC

sent by

Frederick Olsen, Jr.

Executive Director

Southeast Alaska Indigenous Transboundary Commission (SEITC)

[www.seitc.org](http://www.seitc.org)

(907) 738-7319